

# RAN

In the days of old the birds lived at *random* in a lawless state of anarchy; but in time they moved for the setting up of a king. *L'Estrange's Fables.*  
Who could govern the dependance of one event upon another, if that event happened at *random*, and was not cast into a certain relation to some foregoing purpose to direct. *South.*  
'Tis one thing when a person of true merit is drawn as like as we can; and another, when we make a fine thing at *random*, and persuade the next vain creature that 'tis his own likeness. *Pope.*  
**RAN'DOM.** *adj.* Done by chance; roving without direction. Virtue borrow'd but the arms of chance, And struck a *random* blow! 'twas fortune's work, And fortune take the praise. *Dryden.*  
**RAN'FORCE.** *n. f.* The ring of a gun next the touch-hole. *Bailey.*  
**RANG.** *preterite of ring.* Complaints were sent continually up to Rome, and *rang* all over the empire. *Grew's Casim.*  
**TO RANGE.** *v. a.* [*ranger*, Fr. *rhenge*, Welsh.]  
1. To place in order; to put in ranks. Maccabeus *ranged* his army by bands, and went against Timotheus. *2 Mac. xii. 20.*  
He saw not the marquis till the battle was *ranged*. *Clarend.*  
Somewhat rais'd By false presumptuous hope, the *ranged* pow'rs Disband, and wand'ring each his several way Pursues. *Milton.*  
Men, from the qualities they find united in them, and wherein they observe several individuals to agree, *range* them into forts for the convenience of comprehensive signs. *Locke.*  
A certain form and order, in which we have long accustomed ourselves to *range* our ideas, may be best for us now, though not originally best in itself. *Watts.*  
2. To rove over.  
To the copse thy lesser spaniel take, Teach him to *range* the ditch and force the brake. *Gay.*  
**TO RANGE.** *v. n.*  
1. To rove at large.  
Caesar's spirit *ranging* for revenge, With Ate by his side come hot from hell, Shall in these confines, with a monarch's voice, Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war. *Shakefp.*  
'Tis better to be lowly born, And *range* with humble livers in content, Than to be perk'd up in a glist'ring grief, And wear a golden sorrow. *Shakefp. Henry VIII.*  
I saw him in the battle *range* about; And watch'd him, how he singled Clifford forth. *Shakefp.*  
As a roaring lion and a *ranging* bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people. *Prov. xxviii. 15.*  
Other animals unactive *range*, And of their doings God takes no account. *Milton.*  
Thanks to my stars, I have not *rang'd* about The wilds of life, ere I could find a friend. *Addison.*  
2. To be placed in order.  
That is the way to lay the city flat, To bring the roof to the foundation, And bury all which yet distinctly *ranges* In heaps of ruin. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*  
**RANGE.** *n. f.* [*range*, Fr. from the verb.]  
1. A rank; any thing placed in a line.  
You fled From that great face of war, whose several *ranges* Frighted each other. *Shakefp. Antony and Cleopatra.*  
The light, which passed through its several interstices, painted so many *ranges* of colours, which were parallel and contiguous, and without any mixture of white. *Newton.*  
From this walk you have a full view of a huge *range* of mountains, that lie in the country of the Grisons. *Addison.*  
These *ranges* of barren mountains, by condensing the vapours and producing rains, fountains and rivers, give the very plains that fertility they boast of. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
2. A class; an order.  
The next *range* of beings above him are the immaterial intelligences, the next below him is the sensible nature. *Hale.*  
3. Excursion; wandering.  
He may take a *range* all the world over, and draw in all that wide circumference of sin and vice, and center it in his own breast. *South's Sermons.*  
4. Room for excursion.  
A man has not enough *range* of thought, to look out for any good which does not relate to his own interest. *Addison.*  
5. Compais taken in by any thing excurfive, extended, or ranked in order.  
Far as creation's ample *range* extends, The scale of sensual mental pow'rs ascends. *Pope.*  
Judge we by nature? habit can efface; Affections? they still take a wider *range*. *Pope.*  
6. Step of a ladder.  
The liturgy, practised in England, would kindle that jealousy, as the prologue to that design, and as the first *range* of that ladder, which should serve to mount over all their customs. *Clarendon.*

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7. A kitchen grate.  
Its door forth right to him did open, Therein an hundred *ranges* were nigh, And hundred furnaces all burning bright. *Fairy Queen.*  
It was a vault ybuilt for great dispende, With many *ranges* rear'd along the wall, And one great chimney. *Fairy Queen.*  
The buttery must be visible, and we need for our *ranges*, a more spacious and luminous kitchen. *Wotton's Architect.*  
The implements of the kitchen are spits, *ranges*, coblions and pots. *Bacon's Physical Remains.*  
He was bid at his first coming to take off the *range*, and let down the cinders. *L'Estrange.*  
**RANGER.** *n. f.* [*from range*.]  
1. One that ranges; a rover; a robber.  
They walk not widely, as they were wont, For fear of *rangers* and the great hoont, But privily prolling to and fro. *Spenser's Pastoral.*  
Come, says the *ranger*, here's neither honour nor money to be got by staying. *L'Estrange.*  
2. A dog that beats the ground.  
Let your obsequious *ranger* search around, Nor will the roving spy direct in vain, But numerous coveys gratify thy pain. *Gay's Rural Sports.*  
3. An officer who tends the game of a forest.  
Their father Tyrreus did his fodder bring, Tyrreus chief *ranger* to the Latian king. *Dryden.*  
**RANK.** *adj.* [*rank*, Saxon.]  
1. High growing; strong; luxuriant.  
Down with the grass, That groweth in shadow so *ranke* and so stout. *Tupper.*  
Is not thilk fame gotheard proud, That sits in yonder bank, Whose straying heard themselves shrowde Emong the bushes *rank*. *Spenser.*  
Who would be out, being before his beloved mistress? —That should you, if I were your mistress, or I should think my honesty *ranker* than my wit. *Shakefp.*  
In which disguise, While other jests are something *rank* on foot, Her father hath commanded her to slip Away with Slender. *Shakefp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
Seven ears came up upon one stalk, *rank* and good. *Gen.*  
They fancy that the difference lies in the manner of appluse, one being made by a fuller or *ranker* appluse than the other. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*  
The most plentiful season, that gives birth to the finest flowers, produces also the *rankest* weeds. *Addison.*  
2. Fruitful; bearing strong plants.  
Seven thousand broad-tail'd sheep graz'd on his downs; Three thousand camels his *rank* pastures fed. *Sandys.*  
Where land is *rank*, 'tis not good to sow wheat after a fallow. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
3. [*Rancidus*, Lat.] Strong scented; rancid.  
*Rank* smelling rue, and cummin good for eyes. *Spenser.*  
In their thick breaths, *Rank* of grofs diet, shall we be enclouded, And forc'd to drink their vapour. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*  
The ewes, being *rank*, In the end of Autumn turned to the rams. *Shakefp.*  
The drying marshes such a stench convey, Such the *rank* steams of reeking Albula. *Addison.*  
Hircina, *rank* with sweat, perfumes To censure Phillis for perfumes. *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
4. High tasted; strong in quality.  
Such animals as feed upon flesh, because such kind of food is high and *rank*, qualify it; the one by swallowing the hair of the beasts they prey upon, the other by devouring some part of the feathers of the birds they gorge themselves with. *Ray on the Creation.*  
Divers sea fowl taste *rank* of the fish on which they feed. *Boyle.*  
5. Rampant; highgrown.  
For you, most wicked Sir, whom to call brother Would infect my mouth, I do forgive Thy *rankest* faults. *Shakefp. Temp.*  
This Epiphanius cries out upon as *rank* idolatry, and the device of the devil, who always brought in idolatry under fair pretences. *Stillington's Des. of Discourse on Roman Idol.*  
'Tis pride, *rank* pride, and haughtiness of soul, The Romans call it itoicism. *Addison's Cato.*  
6. Grofs; coarse.  
My wife's a hobby-horse, deserves name As *rank* as any flax-wench, that puts to Before her troth-plight. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
This power of the people in Athens, claimed as the undoubted privilege of an Athenian born, was the *rankest* encroachment and the grossest degeneracy from the loim Solon left. *Swift.*  
7. The iron of a plane is set *rank*, when its edge stands so flat below the sole of the plane, that in working it will take off a thick shaving. *Moxon's Mechanical Exercises.*  
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**RANK.** *n. f.* [*rang*, Fr.]  
1. Line of men placed a-breast.  
Fierce fiery warriors fight upon the clouds, In *rank*s, and squadrons, and right form of war, Which drizzled blood upon the capitol. *Shakefp.*  
I have seen the cannon, When it hath blown his *rank*s into the air. *Shakefp.*  
Is't not pity, That we, the sons and children of this isle, Fill up her enemies *rank*s? *Shakefp. King John.*  
If you have a station in the file, And not in the worst *rank* of manhood, say it. *Shakefp.*  
2. A row.  
West of this place down in the neighbour bottom, The *rank* of officers, by the murmuring stream, Left on your right hand brings you to the place. *Shakefp.*  
A sylvan scene, and as the *rank*s ascend Shade above shade, a woody theatre. *Milton.*  
If the walk, in even *rank*s they stand, Like some well-marshall'd and obsequious band. *Waller.*  
He could through *rank*s of ruin go, With storms above and rocks below. *Dryden's Horace.*  
3. Range of subordination.  
The wisdom and goodness of the maker plainly appears in the parts of this stupendous fabrick, and the several degrees and *rank*s of creatures in it. *Locke.*  
4. Class; order.  
The enchanting power of prosperity over private persons is remarkable in relation to great kingdoms, where all *rank*s and orders of men, being equally concerned in publick blessings, equally join in spreading the infection. *Atterbury.*  
5. Degree of dignity.  
Her charms have made me man, her ravish'd love In *rank* shall place me with the blest above. *Dryden.*  
These all are virtues of a meaner *rank*, Perfections that are plac'd in bones and nerves. *Addison.*  
Lepidus's house, which in his consulate was the finest in Rome, within thirty-five years was not in the hundredth *rank*. *Arbutnot on Coins.*  
6. Dignity; high place: as, he is a man of *rank*.  
**TO RANK.** *v. a.* [*ranger*, Fr. from the noun.]  
1. To place a-breast.  
In view stood *rank'd* of seraphim another row. *Milton.*  
2. To range in any particular class.  
If four woe delights in fellow-ship, And needly will be *rank'd* with other griefs; Why follow'd not, when the said Tybalt's dead, Thy father or thy mother. *Shakefp.*  
He was a man Of an unbounded stomach, ever *ranking* Himself with princes. *Shakefp. Henry VIII.*  
Hereby is *ranked* with idolatry and witchcraft. *Decay of Piety.*  
I have *ranked* this diversion of christian practice among the effects of our contentions. *Decay of Piety.*  
Poets were *ranked* in the class of philosophers, and the ancients made use of them as preceptors in music and morality. *Broom's Notes on the Odyssey.*  
3. To arrange methodically.  
Who now shall rear you to the sun, or *rank* Your tribes. *Milton.*  
*Ranking* all things under general and special heads, renders the nature or uses of a thing more easy to be found out, when we seek in what *rank* of beings it lies. *Watts's Logic.*  
**TO RANK.** *v. n.* To be ranged; to be placed.  
Let that one article *rank* with the rest; And thereupon give me your daughter. *Shakefp.*  
From straggling mountaineers, for publick good, To *rank* in tribes, and quit the savage wood. *Tate.*  
**TO RANKLE.** *v. n.* [*from rank*.] To fester; to breed corruption; to be inflamed in body or mind.  
As when two boars with *rankling* malice met, Their gory sides fresh bleeding fiercely fret. *Fa. Queen.*  
I little smart did feel; But soon it fore increased, And now it *rankleth* more and more, And inwardly it festereth fore. *Spenser's Pastoral.*  
The grief thereof him wondrous sore diseased, Ne might his *rankling* pain with patience be appeased. *Fairy Queen.*  
That fresh bleeding wound Whilome doth *rankle* in my riven breast. *Fairy Queen.*  
Beware of yonder dog; Look, when he fawns, he bites; and, when he bites, His venom tooth will *rankle* to the death. *Shakefp.*  
The storm of his own rage the fool confounds, And envy's *rankling* sting th' imprudent wounds. *Sandys.*  
Thou shalt feel, enrag'd with inward pains, The hydra's venom *rankling* in thy veins. *Addison.*  
I have endur'd the rage of secret grief, A malady that burns and *rankles* inward. *Rowe.*  
On the *rank'd* soul the fury falls. *Thomson.*

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**RANKLY.** *adv.* [*from rank*.] Coarsely; grossly.  
'Tis given out, that, sleeping in my garden, A serpent stung me: so the whole ear of Denmark Is, by a forged process of my death, *Rankly* abus'd. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*  
**RANKNESS.** *n. f.* [*from rank*.] Exuberance; superfluity of growth.  
It bringeth forth abundantly, through too much *rankness*, things less profitable, whereby that which principally it should yield, being either prevented in place, or defrauded of nourishment, faileth. *Hooker, b. v. f. iii.*  
Begin you to grow upon me; I will phylick your *rankness*. *Shakefp. As You Like it.*  
Among the crowd i' th' abbey, where a finger Could not be wedg'd in more; I am stifled With the mere *rankness* of their joy. *Shakefp. Hen. VIII.*  
We'll like a bated and retired flood, Leaving our *rankness* and irregular course, Stoop low within those bounds, we have o'erlook'd. *Shak.*  
The crane's pride is in the *rankness* of her wing. *L'Estr.*  
He the stubborn foil manur'd, With rules of husbandry the *rankness* cur'd; Tam'd us to manners. *Dryden.*  
**RANNY.** *n. f.* The shrewmouse.  
The mus araneus, the shrewmouse or *ranny*. *Brown.*  
**TO RAN'SACK.** *v. a.* [*nan*, Saxon, and *saka*, Swedish, to search for or seize.]  
1. To plunder; to pillage.  
A covetous spirit, Warily awaited day and night, From other covetous fiends it to defend, Who it to rob and *ranjack* did intend. *Fairy Queen.*  
Their vow is made to *ranjack* Troy. *Shakefp.*  
Men by his suggestion taught, *Ranjack'd* the centre, and with impious hands Rifled the bowels of the earth. *Milton.*  
The *ranjack'd* city, taken by our toils, We left, and hither brought the golden spoils. *Dryden.*  
The spoils which they from *ranjack'd* houses brought, And golden bowls from burning altars caught. *Dryden.*  
2. To search narrowly.  
I *ranjack* the several caverns, and search into the store-houses of water, to find out where that mighty mass of water, which overflowed the earth, is bestowed. *Woodward.*  
3. To violate; to deflower.  
With greedy force he 'gan the fort assail, Wherof he weened posses'd soon to be, And with rich spoil of *ranjack'd* chastity. *Fairy Queen.*  
**RAN'SOME.** *n. f.* [*ransom*, Fr.] Price paid for redemption from captivity or punishment.  
By his captivity in Austria, and the heavy *ransom* that he paid for his liberty, Richard was hindered to pursue the conquest of Ireland. *Davies on Ireland.*  
Ere the third dawning light Return, the stars of morn shall see him rise, The *ransom* paid, which man from death redeemes, His death for man. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xii.*  
Has the prince lost his army or his liberty? Tell me what province they demand for *ransom*. *Denham.*  
This as a *ransom* Albemarle did pay, For all the glories of so great a life. *Dryden.*  
To adore that great mystery of divine love, God's sending his only son into this world to save sinners, and to give his life a *ransom* for them, would be noble exercise for the pens of the greatest wits. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
Th' avenging pow'r Thus will persist, relentless in his ire, Till the fair slave be render'd to her fire, And *ransom* free restor'd to his abode. *Dryden.*  
**TO RAN'SOME.** *v. a.* [*ransommer*, Fr.] To redeem from captivity or punishment.  
How is't with Titus Lartius? —Condemning some to death and some to exile, *Ransoming* him, or pitying, threatening the other. *Shakefp.*  
I will *ransom* them from the grave, and redeem them from death. *Hosea xiii. 14.*  
He'll dying rise, and rising with him raise His brethren, *ransom'd* with his own dear life. *Milton.*  
**RAN'SOMELESS.** *adj.* [*from ransom*.] Free from ransom. *Ransomeless* here we let our prisoners free. *Shakefp.*  
Deliver him Up to his pleasure *ransomeless* and free. *Shakefp.*  
**TO RANT.** *v. n.* [*randen*, Dutch, to rave.] To rave in violent or high sounding language without proportionable dignity of thought.  
Look where my *ranting* host of the garter comes; there is either liquor in his pate, or money in his purse, when he looks so merrily. *Shakefp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
Nay, an thoult mouth, I'll *rant* as well as thou. *Shak.*  
They have attacked me; some with piteous moans, others grinning and only shewing their teeth, others *ranting* and hectoring, others scolding and reviling. *Stillington's RANT.*